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DEPT FOR EUR/CARC

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/21/2016
TAGS: [KUNR](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [ADCO](#) [AM](#)
SUBJECT: ARMENIA SUPPORTS CREATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
AS PART OF UN REFORM

REF: A) STATE 4745 B) STATE 4746 C) YEREVAN 58

Classified By: CDA A.F. Godfrey for reasons 1.4 (b, d).

(C) On February 21, MFA Senior Advisor Salpi Ghazarian (Amcit) told us Armenia supported the creation of a new, forty-five member United Nations Human Rights Council elected by a two-thirds majority. Ghazarian said that Foreign Minister Vartan Oskanian had relayed this message, along with ref A talking points the Ambassador delivered to Oskanian on January 12 (ref C), to the Armenian delegation at the United Nations. Ghazarian added that a fifty-three member council would likely "favor Armenia's own interests," but that the GOAM would prefer to avoid controversy by supporting consensus on the issue. Ghazarian said the GOAM had not yet formulated a position on management reform, but would consider the U.S. position.
GODFREY